

We Claim:

1. An exterior rear view mirror assembly comprising:
 - a housing adapted to be secured to an outer surface of a motor vehicle and having a generally rearwardly facing opening;
 - a reflective mirror disposed within said opening;
 - 5 a first decorative cover member secured in overlying relationship to an outer surface portion of said housing, said decorative member including a light transmitting window
 - a light assembly having a light source therein, said light source being operable to provide a signal visible through said light transmitting window to an adjacent motor vehicle when actuated.
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2. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said light assembly includes a light housing, said light source including a light socket removably secured to said light housing.
3. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 2 wherein said light assembly is mounted on said decorative cover member.
4. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 3 wherein said light transmitting window is a lens and said light housing includes a light socket support member secured to said lens, said lens having an outer surface contour forming a substantially smooth continuation of the outer surface of said decorative member.
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5. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 4 wherein said light socket support member includes a reflective inner surface, said inner surface being shaped to direct a maximum amount of light emitted from said light source to said lens.

6. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 4 wherein said lens is operative to direct light through an arc extending substantially 90 degrees rearwardly from approximately a line passing through said mirror assembly and extending perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of said vehicle.

7. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said mirror assembly includes an electrical connector adapted to be electrically connected to said vehicle turn signal system, said light source including a mating connector connected to said electrical connector whereby said light source
5 may be actuated when said vehicle turn signal is actuated.

8. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 7 wherein said mating connector is integrally formed with said light source.

9. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said light assembly is fixedly secured to said decorative cover member.

10. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 1 wherein said mirror assembly includes a second decorative cover member, said second decorative cover member being interchangeable with said first decorative cover member, said second decorative cover member being secured to said housing
5 when said light assembly is not desired.

11. An exterior rear view mirror assembly for mounting on a motor vehicle, said mirror assembly comprising:

a housing having an upper wall portion, a lower wall portion, a forwardly facing wall portion and inner and outer wall portion cooperating to define a generally enclosed area open at a rearwardly facing portion thereof;

a mirror movably positioned within said open rearwardly facing portion thereof;

a recessed portion provided in said housing, said recessed portion extending over at least a part of said upper, forwardly facing and outer wall portions;

a wiring harness including a connector disposed in part within said housing, said wiring harness being adapted to be connected to a turn signal circuit of said motor vehicle;

an opening provided in said recessed portion of said outer wall portion, said connector being accessible through said opening;

a decorative cover member received within and substantially covering said recessed portion, said cover member including

a light housing, said light housing including a lens forming a continuation of the outer surface of said decorative cover member,

a light source supported within said light housing, said light source being coupled to said connector whereby said light may be actuated in response to actuation of said turn signal circuit of said motor vehicle.

12. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 11 wherein said light source includes a pair of electrically conductive prongs projecting outwardly of said light housing, said prongs being connectable to said connector upon assembly of said decorative cover member to said housing.

13. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 11 wherein said light housing is fixedly secured to a portion of said decorative cover member overlying said outer wall portion.

14. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 11 wherein said light housing includes a surface operative to direct light from said light source to said lens.

15. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 11 wherein said lens is operative to direct light outwardly from said outer wall portion in a direction to be visible by other motor vehicles following and traveling alongside side motor vehicle.

16. An exterior rear view mirror assembly for a motor vehicle comprising:

5 a housing having interconnected upper wall, lower wall, forwardly facing wall, inner wall and outer wall portions and a wiring harness disposed therein, said wiring harness being adapted to be connected to the turn signal circuit of said motor vehicle;

said housing further having a recess extending across at least a part of said upper wall, forwardly facing wall and outer wall portions;

a connector provided in said recess of said outer wall portion;

10 a first decorative cover member adapted to be received within and substantially cover said recess portion;

a second decorative cover member adapted to be received within and substantially cover said recess portion, said second cover member including a light source provided thereon and a light connector connectable to said connector in said recess of said outer wall portion;

15 one of said first and second cover members being disposed within said recess.

17. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 16 wherein said light source is provided in a portion of said second decorative cover member received within said recess on said outer wall portion.

18. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 17 wherein said light source is actuatable in response to actuation of said turn signal circuit.

5 19. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 16 wherein said recessed portion of said outer wall portion includes a cavity adapted to receive said light source when said second decorative member is assembled to said housing, said cavity being concealed when said first or said second decorative cover member is assembled to said housing.

20. An exterior rear view mirror assembly as set forth in claim 19 wherein said cavity includes an electrical outlet, said electrical outlet receiving a plug provided on said light source when said second decorative member is assembled to said housing.